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PRESS RELEASE

FIRST CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEALS APPOINTS NEW BANKRUPTCY APPELLATE PANEL CLERK

BOSTON (February 20, 2008) -- Gary Wente, Circuit Executive of the First Circuit, announced today that Mary P. Sharon has accepted the position of Clerk of the Bankruptcy Appellate Panel. Since 1994, Ms. Sharon has served as a Career Law Clerk to the Honorable William C. Hillman of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Massachusetts. Prior to serving as a law clerk, Ms. Sharon practiced bankruptcy law at Burns and Levinson. She has served on the Local Rules Committee for the Bankruptcy Court and is a volunteer teacher for the Boston Bar Association's M. Ellen Carpenter Financial Literacy Program. Ms. Sharon is a graduate of Tufts University and the Suffolk University Law School.

Chief Judge Boudin stated that the Court was pleased to find a Clerk with Ms. Sharon's bankruptcy experience, who has also worked extensively with the local bar.

For further information, please contact Circuit Executive, Gary Wente, 617-748-9613 or Deputy Circuit Executive, Susan Goldberg, 617-748-9614.